

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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AMCONSUL BOMBAY

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 13782

FROM AGATT FOR COMMUNICATIONS, REPORTS AND RECORDS

PASS PARKER, ESCS  
BOMBAY FOR AG OFFICER

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EAGR  
SUBJECT: WEATHER SITUATION AND FLOOD REPORT

24AL; CERP SECTION D: IN-8068

MONSOON ACTIVITY DURING WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 6 GENERALLY  
REMAINED AT PRECEDING WEEK'S LEVEL. WEATHER ZONES RECEIV-  
ING NORMAL OR ABOVE NORMAL RAINFALL SLIPPED TO 17 OUT OF  
35, ONE LESS THAN PREVIOUS WEEK. EXCEPTIONS WERE BAY  
ISLANDS, NAGALAND, MANIPUR, MIZORAM AND TRIPURA, NORTHERN  
PARTS OF WEST BENGAL, ORISSA, PUNJAB, JAMMU AND KASHMIR,  
WESTERN RAJASTHEAN, MAHARASHTRA (EXCLUDING COASTAL REGION),  
ANDHRA PRADESH, TAMIL NADU, NORTH AND SOUTH INTERIOR  
KARNATAKA, KERALA AND LAKSHADWEEP WHERE RAINFALL DEFIC-  
IENCY RANGED FROM 35 TO 95 PERCENT BELOW NORMAL.  
BARRING NORTHERN PARTS OF WEST BENGAL AND TAMIL NADU  
(BOTH ZONES 27 PERCENT BELOW NORMAL), CUMULATIVE RAINFALL  
JUNE 1 TO SEPTEMBER 6 WAS NORMAL OR ABOVE NORMAL OVER  
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ENTIRE COUNTRY. WEATHER ZONES WHICH RECEIVED NORMAL OR  
ABOVE NORMAL RAINFALL ACCOUNTED FOR 89 PERCENT OF TOTAL  
KHARIF CEREAL PRODUCTION (COMPARED TO 93 PERCENT IN COM-  
PARABLE PERIOD OF 1977), USING DISTRIBUTION OF KHARIF PRO-  
DUCTION DURING 1970-71, AS A BASE. THE COMPARATIVELY  
LOWER PERCENTAGE DURING CURRENT SEASON IS DUE TO BE-  
LOW NORMAL CUMULATIVE RAINFALL CN TAMIL NADU WHICH 49-

INCHES ABOUT 10 PERCENT OF TOTAL KHARIF PRODUCTION. AL-  
THOUGH TAMIL NADU HAS BEEN EXPERIENCING BELOW NORMAL  
RAINFALL FOR PAST FOUR WEEKS SUCCESSIVELY, OUTCOME OF  
CROPS WILL LARGELY DEPEND ON RAINS DURING LAST THREE  
MONTHS OF THIS YEAR.

ACCORDING TO ASSESSMENT MADE BY CENTRAL GOVERNMENT TEAM,  
ABOUT 32 MILLION PEOPLE IN UTTAR PRADESH, BIHAR, PUBJAB?,  
HIMACHAL PRADESH, HARYANA ( INCLUDING DELHI), ORISSA,  
RAJASTHAN, ANDHRA PRADESH, ASSAM AND WEST BENGAL HAVE  
BEEN AFFECTED BY FLOODS. TOTAL LOSS OF HUMAN LIVES  
AND CATTLE ARE ESTIMATED AT AROUND 1,000 AND 4,000  
RESPECTIVELY. ABOUT 5.2 MILLION BECTARES OF CROP LAND  
HAVE BEEN SUBJECTED TO FLOODING IN VARYING DEGREES,  
WHICH HAS PROBABLY REDUCED POTENTIAL PRODUCTION OF  
FOODGRAINS BETWEEN 1 TO 2 MILLION TONS, ASSUMING 25 TO  
50 PERCENT CROP DAMAGE.

INDIAN FARMERS ANNUALLY SUFFER CROP LOSSES FROM FLOOD-  
ING. THIS YEAR'S FLOODS HAVE BEEN MORE WIDESPREAD,  
PROLONGED AND SEVERE THAN USUAL SO WE BELIEVE LOSSES  
WILL BE HIGHER THAN IN RECENT YEARS. ON THE OTHER HAND,  
BECAUSE THE SUMMER PLANTED, FALL AND EARLY WINTER HAR-  
VESTED KHARIF CROPS (OF WHICH RICE IS THE PRINCIPAL  
COMPOENT), RELY HEAVILY ON NATURAL RAINS WHICH HAVE  
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BEEN GENEROUS, WIDESPREAD AND TIMELY THIS SUMMER, THE  
REDUCTION IN FOODGRAIN OUTPUT DUE TO FLOODS WILL BE  
SOMEWHAT OFFSET BY INCREASED PRODUCTION IN THE AREAS  
NOT ADVERSELY AFFECTED. CONSEQUENTLY, IN OUR OPINION , IN  
THE FINAL ANALYSIS TOTAL KHARIF FOODGRAIN PRODUCTION  
COULD EQUAL OR POSSIBLY EVEN EXCEED LAST YEAR'S RECRORD  
BREAKING CROP. ADDITIONALLY, THERE IS AMPLE MOISTURE  
IN THE SOIL TO GET GRAINS WHICH WILL BE SOWED IN THE  
NEXT FEW MONTHS OFF TO A GOOD START. COMMERCIAL CROPS  
SUCH AS PEANUTS AND COTTON HAVE ALSO BENEFITED BY THE  
EXCELLENT SUMMER MONSOON RAINS.

THE GOI HAS TO DATE RELEASED 77,500 TONS OF FOODGRAINS  
FROM CENTRAL STOCKS FOR DISTRIBUTION TO FLOOD VICTIMS  
IN VARIOUS STATES.  
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## Message Attributes

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